

# ICAST

*Intelligent Computational Assistive  
Science and Technology:  
A Canadian Network*

# Birth...

- Seeds planted in July 2006 at a UBC meeting set up by Alan Mackworth
- first meeting Dec. 6, 2006, hosted by York U., funded by Precarn and by York U.
- Network launch approved unanimously - first chair elected J. Tsotsos
- This is the first such network dedicated to a long-term vision for science and technology to aid persons with disabilities and impairments of all types.

# Four Major Themes

The ICAST network is a network of overlapping research and development *clusters*:

- Mobility
- Smart Homes
- Communication
- For the Elderly

# Goals

- grow the size of the national network specific to this mandate;
- facilitate networking among researchers, companies, advocacy groups and clinicians;
- help coordinate research to get better economic benefit from dollars spent;
- advocate for ways to engage industry in a more effective way;
- provide a mechanism and encouragement for user/advocacy groups to provide greater input to research priorities.

# Founding Organizations

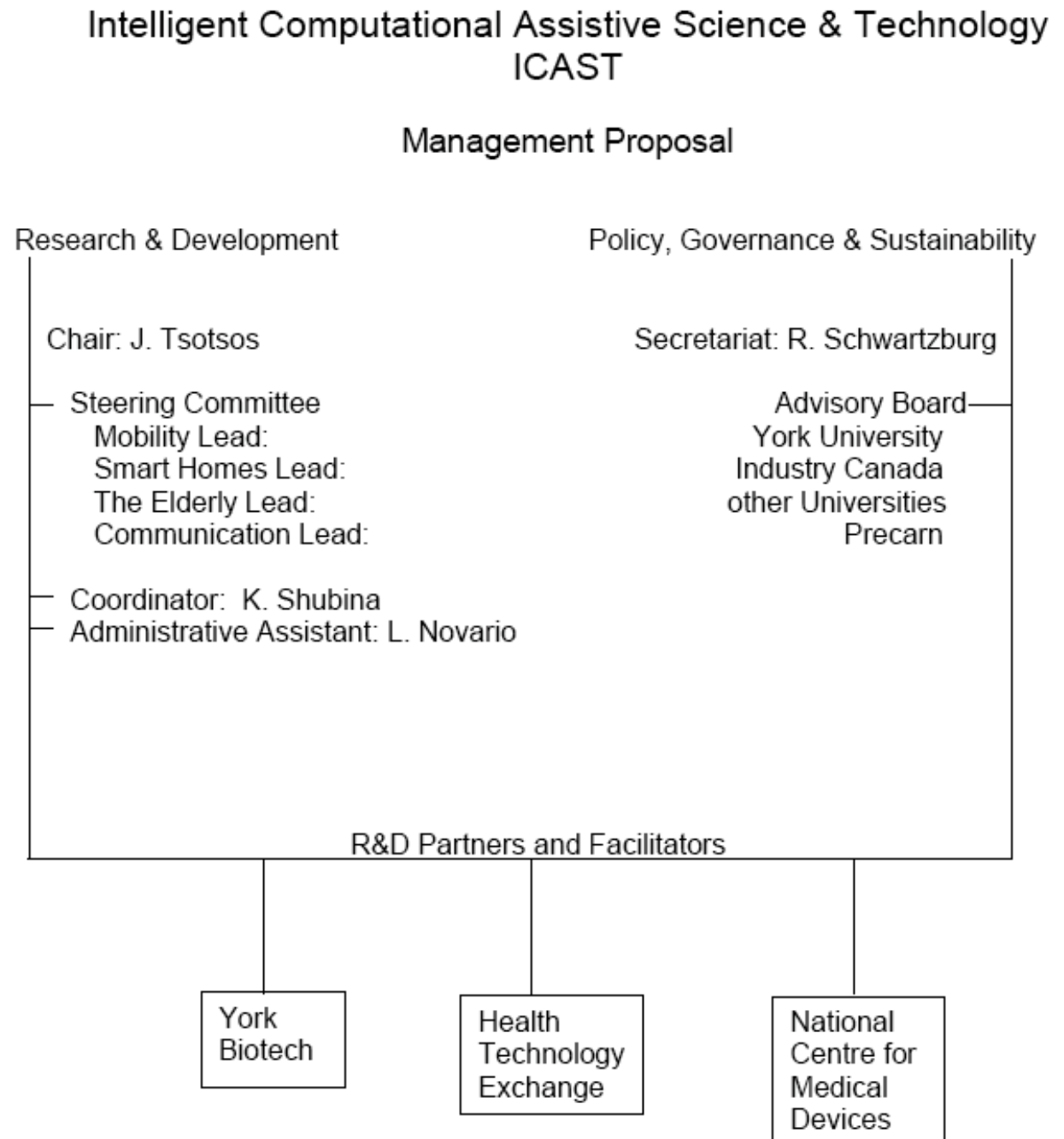
- *Universities* -
  - University of British Columbia
  - University of New Brunswick
  - University of Ottawa
  - University of Sherbrooke
  - University of Toronto
  - University of Victoria
  - University of Waterloo
  - York University
- *Companies* -
  - Applied AI
  - CRIM
  - HTX (The Health Technology Exchange)
  - Precarn Inc.
  - Quanser
  - Research In Motion
  - Systèmes Lifelink
- *Hospitals, Caregivers, Clinical Units* -
  - The Neil Squire Society
  - The Toronto Rehabilitation Institute

# Steering Committee

- Gary Birch Neil Squire Society, Vancouver
- Christian Cloutier Systèmes Lifelink, Quebec City
- Pierre Dumouchel CRIM, Montreal
- Paul Gilbert Quanser, Markham
- Sid Fels University of British Columbia
- Ed Lemaire University of Ottawa
- Nigel Livingston University of Victoria
- Francois Michaud University of Sherbrooke
- Alex Mihailidis University of Toronto
- Mickey Milner HTX, Markham
- Hélène Pigot University of Sherbrooke

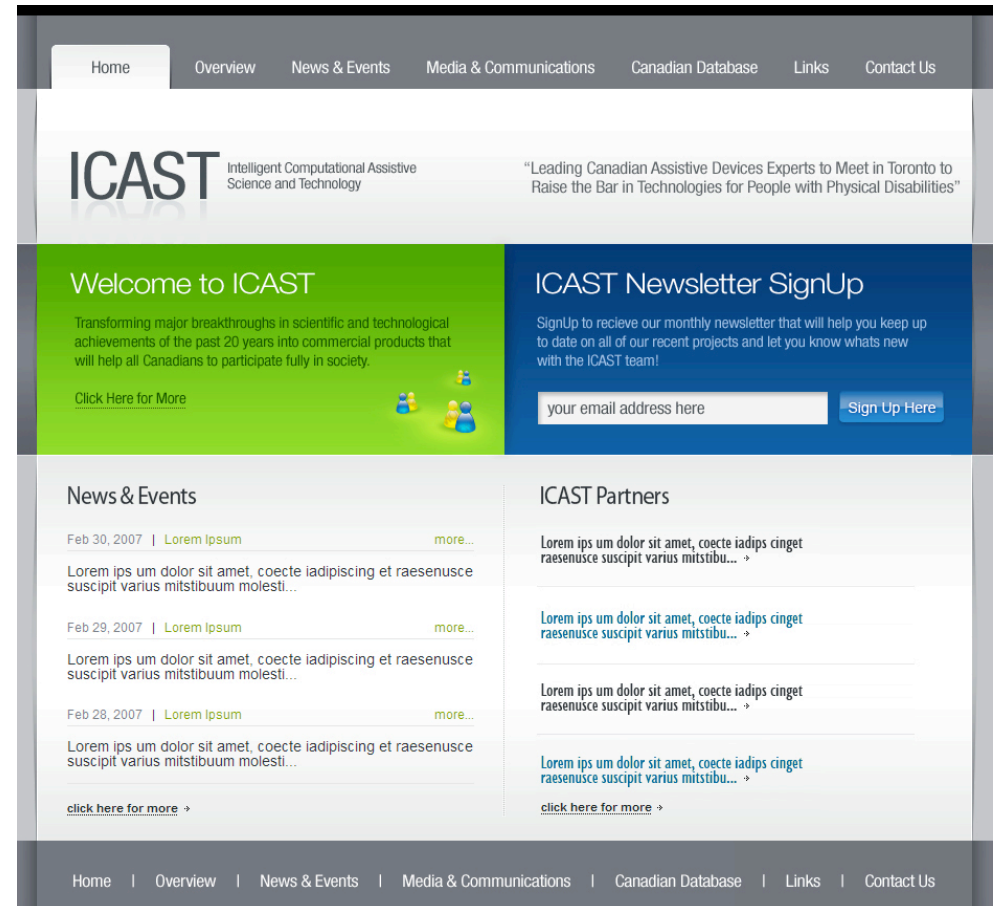
# Admin Structure

- still under construction



# Web Presence

- icast-canada.org
- 10 labs signed up
- live by September



# Current Status

- Financial support from York U for one year of basic administrative expenses
- Logistical support from Precarn Inc.
- at least one joint project in review for funding at CIHR

# The Future...

- Fall meeting of partners with the goal of identifying emerging teams wishing to go forward with concrete project and funding proposals
- advisory board to be populated